

## GIRL BEHEADED, FOUR PERSONS HURLED BY CAR.

Wagon Carrying Party of Six to Summer Garden Smashed to Splinters on South Broadway.

Little Blanche Skeels Instantly Killed and Herman Russler's Skull Fractured—Baby in Mother's Arms Escapes Without a Scratch.

One young girl beheaded, two men seriously hurt, and two persons slightly hurt are the results of a collision at Maeder street and South Broadway last night at 8:15 o'clock between a car No. 510 of the Sixth street division of the transit company's lines and a light wagon bearing a party of six for an evening's outing at a summer garden.

Despite the fact that every older person in the conveyance was injured, little Luke Skeels, only 2 years old, of No. 614 South Third street, escaped without a scratch.

Immediately after the accident an excited crowd of some 400 persons assembled and made a determined effort to lynch the motorman. The latter, however, was already under police protection, and after some time the crowd was dispersed.

Those in the wagon when it was struck were Mr. and Mrs. George Skeels, Blanche Skeels and Luke Skeels of No. 614 South Third street, and Herman Russler of 819 Rutger street. Blanche Skeels was instantly killed; Russler's face was badly contused, his face out and his skull possibly fractured; Fichesser's right leg was broken below the knee; Mrs. Skeels' hands and feet were crushed and she suffered severe bruises; Skeels himself was badly bruised all over the body, but was not believed to be seriously hurt.

**Starting for Summer Garden.**

The party left the Skeels home about 7:30 in the evening in a light spring wagon belonging to Skeels. It was intended to drive down Broadway to Klumme's Garden and to Maenner Park and to there spend the evening. Russler, Fichesser and Blanche Skeels sat in the front seat, while Mr. and Mrs. Skeels, with the baby, sat in the rear.

North of Maeder street on Broadway there is a slight grade, and south-bound cars generally come down it at a high rate of speed. At Maeder street the track is on a level. The street at this place is lighted only by gas.

Fichesser was driving, and he had come down the boulevard in the road, fully trot. He was on the west side of the track. At Maeder he started to turn in upon the rails of the electric line. There was behind him a confused rumbling and a jangling of bells. The horse became excited and turned directly across the south-bound track. Then the car crashed in from behind.

The buggy was struck obliquely and between the front and back wheel. It was lifted bodily up, turned completely over and dragged fifty feet before the car stopped. Blanche Skeels was sitting on the side towards the car, was thrown entirely across the track, and her head falling on the inside rail of the south-bound track. The car came to a stop with her, severing her head from the body, but not otherwise mangle her.

**How the Baby Escaped.**

The baby, Luke, was thrown from his mother's arms as the car fell, fully twenty feet to the west of the track. The little boy landed in a soft plot of grass that is beside the track at this place. The car came to a stop with her, severing her head from the body, but not otherwise mangle her.

Fichesser and Russler were thrown forward as the car fell, wheels in the air, and were dragged along with the wreck of the car. Fichesser managed to prevent his face and hands from being crushed against the ground by the weight of the buggy, but Russler was not so lucky, and his face was literally cut to pieces.

His appearance after the accident and after he had been removed from the scene caused the report to be spread that he was killed, but his injuries, though very painful, were not dangerous.

Mr. and Mrs. Skeels were also thrown out of the buggy, but escaped being caught in the wreck, and their injuries were only the result of the shock and the accident. The nervous shock attending the instantaneous death of her daughter was greater than that of her physical injuries.

The scene at Maeder street and Broadway a few minutes after the accident, and the crowd of people, and the street car men were heard. Finally there was talk of lynching the motorman, but this talk quickly died away, and the crowd dispersed.

**Crowd Waits for Motorman.**

When this became known the crowd stopped every south-bound car, hoping in this way to find the motorman on his return trip. But the latter had been taken in charge by the police at the First District Station and was locked up there pending the coroner's inquest.

Officers Gavin, Cliff and Halley of the First District were first of the policemen at the scene of the accident. They attempted to remove the body of Blanche Skeels from between the two tracks where it had fallen, and place it beside the road. This, however, was impossible until more policemen arrived.

Mr. and Mrs. Skeels were completely unharmed by the shock and their grief be-

side the body of their dead daughter was affecting in the extreme.

About 10 o'clock an ambulance arrived and the body of Blanche Skeels was placed in it. Mr. and Mrs. Skeels and the baby got into a private buggy, and both conveyances went first to the South Side Dispensary. Here, when life was found to be extinct in the body of Blanche Skeels, the ambulance proceeded to the morgue. The injuries of Mr. and Mrs. Skeels were dressed and the two were taken home.

Russler was taken to the office of Doctor O. F. Drescher, at No. 215 Pestalozzi street. Here his injuries were dressed. He had sustained fifteen scalp wounds and his face was swollen beyond recognition.

**Fichesser's Statement.**

Stothenes Fichesser, who was driving the vehicle, was sent to the City Hospital. There it was found that his right leg was broken in several places between the knee and ankle. The exact nature of the injury could not be learned, however, because of the swelling.

To a Republic representative he said that the party left Third and Plum streets shortly after 6 o'clock.

"The first I knew that anything was wrong," he said, "was when I heard the back of the carriage screamed. I turned around quickly and the headlight of the car flashed in my face for an instant, then came the crash. I knew nothing more until I came to myself in the street. I still had hold of the reins and the horse was standing near me. My leg pained me so that I could not move or help myself."

"I say positively that no going rang or I would have heard it. We were a jolly party, but were not making enough noise to drown out the sound of the going had it rung. We stopped once on the way and had a glass of beer. That was the only drink we took."

**What the Motorman Says.**

H. W. Gilbert of No. 441 South Broadway was the motorman of the car which struck the girl, and Joseph Week of No. 822 Rutger street was the conductor. The former was seen last night at the First District Station, and made the following statement about the accident:

"In the first place the brake was out of order. It took five turns of the wheel to bring the car to a full stop on level ground. At the time I struck the wagon I had just come down the grade south of Maeder street, and was running about four miles an hour with the power shut off. When I first saw the buggy it was some fifty yards in front of me. It was not on the track, but was a few feet outside on the west."

I applied the brake as hard as I could. Each turn I gave to tighten the wheel I kicked the gear. I must have rung five or six times. Then I applied the reverse lever and loosened the brake because the reverse lever would have no effect with the brake set.

"But just then the overhead cut-off exploded. This shut off the current entirely and left the car with nothing to retard it. I applied the brake as quickly as I could, but before I could stop the car I had hit the wagon."

"After the accident I know little. It is against our orders to leave the scene under any circumstances, and I shortly after went up to the police station to notify them. I came into the employ of the transit company on August 1, but was an experienced motorman in Kansas City before coming here."

**Story of a Passenger.**

Frank Wilson and his wife, Eva Clayton, the well-known Dutch comedienne, were on the car. Wilson said last night, in describing the accident: "We were going down the hill from Mount Pleasant at a rapid rate, when suddenly the vehicle was noticed a few feet in front of us. I heard the crash and saw the barouche, and the occupants of the car and knocking its occupants in every direction."

"The car was itself, were bound for Maenner's Park. The women screamed and several fainting, among them my wife. I jumped out as soon as the car came to a stop. A little girl about 12 years old, whom I afterwards learned was named Blanche, had fallen under the car, and the wheels, passing over her neck, had almost completely severed the head from the body. Her death was instantaneous."

"One of the men had the top of his head nearly torn off. His brains were oozing from the fracture in his skull. I picked him up and put him on a car going north, with instructions to put him off at the hospital. The others did not appear to be very badly hurt."

A large crowd soon gathered and for a time it looked as if violence would surely be done the motorman and conductor of the car. Cries of "Kill them!" "Lynch them!" and the like were heard on all sides, and the police times the mob seemed about to put their threats in execution. Policemen arrived early on the scene and kept them back.

"I cannot say who was to blame; it all happened so suddenly that no one had an idea of danger until the crash came. One of the men was run over and killed at Third and Certe streets by a draft wagon. In his grief last night, Skeels frequently referred to the fact of his little daughter's death three years ago. She was only 3 years old and was playing in the street at the time.



JOHN BULL: "IF HE ONLY KEEPS 'EM OUT FOR ME."

## EMPEROR AND EMPRESS DOWAGER RULE, BUT THEY HAVE LEFT PEKIN, SAYS WU.

**REPUBLIC SPECIAL.**

Washington, Aug. 19.—China recognizes the Emperor and Empress Dowager as her rulers. They are the Government of China. I have no idea that any attempt will be made by the Chinese to overthrow them. An official dispatch which I received yesterday from Li Hung Chang announcing the entrance of the allies into Pekin and the safety of the legations also stated that before the city was attacked the court had gone to the West."

This statement was made this evening by Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister to the United States, who has recently occupied a most difficult and delicate position with extraordinary tact.

"Naturally, I am deeply grieved," he continued, "that conditions should have arisen which have brought about a conflict between the Chinese and the allied forces, but I am hopeful that a full and free discussion, which undoubtedly will occur between Li Hung Chang and the representatives of the Powers, will indicate where the responsibility lies for what has occurred, and will result in the settlement of all questions and the permanent withdrawal of the foreign troops."

"I presume that Li Hung Chang's dispatch saying that the court had gone to the West meant both the Emperor and Empress. I believe the report published a few days ago that the Emperor and Empress Dowager had gone to Tai-Nan-Fu probably is correct. The mere fact that the Emperor and Empress Dowager are not at Pekin does not change the governing power of China. Queen Victoria recently went to Ireland, but she still remains the Queen of Great Britain. So with the Emperor and Empress Dowager."

## CHINA NOT YET READY TO QUIT.

Shanghai Dispatches Say Viceroy's Are Making Threats—"Empress Dowager Must Not Be Harmed."

London, Aug. 20, 4 a. m.—Rear Admiral Bruce's report of the continuation of fighting in Pekin puts a most serious aspect on the Chinese situation that was generally expected here. It appears effectually to dispose of all statements that the Empress Dowager had fled, although circumstantial accounts of her departure continue to come from Shanghai.

Despite defeat, the Chinese are apparently resolved to make a desperate effort to hold on to the city. The Russian Emperor also thanks Vice Admiral Alexieff and "the heroic Siberian troops."

General Grodekoff, Russian Commander of the Amur Government, reports to the Russian War Office that Chingnan Pass was captured August 18, after a bloody battle, in which the Chinese suffered heavily, losing four or five guns. The Russian cavalry were in pursuit of the enemy.

The principal Russian papers, notably the Novoe Vremya, commenting upon the victory at Pekin, declare that Russia should exert further in participating in common action, but should limit her military action to the frontier and the Manchurian railroad.

Following is the text of the dispatch from General Chaffee, as made public by the War Department:

"Che-Foo, Aug. 18.—To Adjutant General, Washington: Pekin, Aug. 15.—We entered the grounds at 5 o'clock last night with Fourteenth and Light Batteries. Eight wounded during day's fighting; otherwise all well."

**"CHAFFEE."**

The dispatch, which was received immediately the morning, was transmitted immediately to the President at the White House. He expressed his gratification at the news contained, particularly at the small loss sustained by the American troops. A copy of the dispatch likewise was sent to Adjutant General Corbin, who was in New York.

It will be noted that the dispatch indicates that the American troops entered the legation grounds at 5 o'clock on the evening of August 14. By the Washington official and by several legation officials to whom it was shown, the date of General Chaffee's communication is regarded as an error of transmission. It is believed that the word "fifteenth" should be "sixteenth." All previous advice, official and unofficial, have indicated that the legations were relieved on the evening of the 14th, Wednesday, and after a day of sharp fighting. Minister Wu, the Chinese Minister, and Minister Takahiro of Japan, were quite positive on this point, all their official advice being that the entrance to the city of Pekin was effected early in the evening of Wednesday, the 14th.

**Forces Probably Divided.**

The fact that the 14th Infantry entered the city, as shown by General Chaffee's dispatch, does not indicate that the Ninth Infantry and the marines who were so conspicuously gallant throughout the advance upon the capital did not participate in the

## MORE FIGHTING IN PEKIN.

Allied Forces Are Bombarding the Forbidden City.

FLAMES BREAK OUT.

Our Losses Only Eight When Outer City Fell.

TRAP FOR EMPRESS.

Report That She Did Not Make Her Escape.

### REMEY'S REPORT.

"Che-Foo—Bureau of Navigation, Washington—Taku, Aug. 18.—Telegraph line to Pekin interrupted. Information Japanese sources Empress Dowager detained by Prince Yungedo Inner City, which being bombarded by allies. Chaffee reports entered legation grounds on the evening of the 14th. Eight wounded during day's fight. Otherwise all well. REMEY."

### FIGHTING IN STREETS.

Rome, Aug. 19.—A dispatch from Taku, via Che-Foo, August 18, says:

"Fighting continues in the streets of Pekin and the allies have bombarded the point that is still resisting. Prince Yung prevented the departure of the Empress Dowager."

### PEKIN BURNING.

London, Aug. 20, 4:20 a. m.—Rear Admiral Bruce cables the Admiralty from Che-Foo, August 19, as follows:

"Am informed on the authority of the Japanese that street fighting still continues in Pekin, part of which is on fire."

"Xan Sa prevented the Empress from leaving, and a last stand is now being made in the Inner City, which is surrounded by the allies and being bombarded."

Washington, Aug. 19.—From General Chaffee to-day the War Department received a final confirmation of the fall of Pekin and the rescue of the besieged legations. The dispatch of the American commander was not long, and contained but few details, but the unqualified satisfaction with which it was received by officials of the administration indicated clearly the anxiety that had been engendered by his prolonged silence. His last communication to the Government, prior to the receipt of to-day's advice, was dated August 11, at Matow, almost thirty miles from Pekin.

The explanation of his silence is suggested in advice received by the Navy Department to-day from Admiral Remy, who, telegraphing from Taku on the 18th, says the telegraph line between that point and Pekin is interrupted.

The cablegram from Admiral Remy contains some important information not mentioned by General Chaffee. He makes the startling statement, on Japanese authority, that the Inner city of Pekin was being bombarded by the allied forces. Admiral Remy says, also, that the Dowager Empress is detained in the inner city by Prince Yungedo. Advice received last night from the Foreign Office at Tokio, Japan, by the Japanese Legation in this city confirms and amplifies previous accounts of the capture of Pekin by the allied troops.

### Chaffee's Dispatch.

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COUNT VON WALTERDEE, Selected to command the allied forces in China.

## AN ARMISTICE TO COME NEXT.

Positive Action Regarding Settlement Not Likely Until the True Situation in Pekin is Known.

Washington, Aug. 19.—Now that the primary object for which the allied armies marched upon Pekin, viz, the rescue of the besieged legations, has been accomplished, the drift of discussion in official and diplomatic circles reverts to the next step to be taken. Necessarily many of the predictions as to what this will be are purely conjectural, as it is realized that complete and definite information regarding the condition of affairs in Pekin must be awaited before any positive action can be taken by the Governments whose interests have suffered as a result of the Chinese troubles.

"We are on the threshold of an entirely new condition of affairs. A new aspect confronts us," said a well-posted official of this Government to-night. "The efforts of the several Governments during the past weeks have been devoted to the rescue of the legations in Pekin. Now that that has been accomplished, the course of the Governments whose interests have been affected is for the present one largely of conjecture."

**An Armistice.**

The presumption here is that the next move will be an agreement for an armistice. This may be undertaken by the commanders of the Chinese army and those of the allies on the spot, where the fighting, according to the latest reports from Pekin, appears still to be in progress. This accomplished, the question of the withdrawal of the foreign armies, the payment of indemnities and many other problems may be left to commissions duly appointed to adjudicate them.

Li Hung Chang has already been ap-

pointed a plenipotentiary by his Government to negotiate terms of peace, and, in this capacity, he made an ineffectual attempt to stop the progress of the allies in their march on Pekin. Whether Earl Li will be continued in that capacity by the Imperial Government is not known here, but such seems altogether probable, as, with his well-known ability and his acquaintance with the world, he would be able to make possibly better terms than any other Chinaman.

**Eleven Nations Affected.**

There were eleven nations, pointed out the same official, which have suffered as a result of the Chinese disturbances. All will expect a settlement of damages which have resulted from the Boxer outbreaks, the murder of missionaries and the destruction of legation property. Spain is one of these, and, although she has not participated in the relief expedition, she has suffered alike with the others, and will expect to be indemnified for her losses. It can be stated authoritatively that, up to this time, there have been no exchanges between the United States and the other Powers regarding the steps to be taken in the future to bring China to terms for the losses that have been incurred. The sole interest of the United States up to this time has been the rescue of the legations, which is now an accomplished fact. Informal discussion has taken place between the President and his Cabinet as to what this Government will do to secure reparation for losses, but the conclusions reached are purely tentative and in no sense definite.

engagement which resulted directly in the rescue of the besieged legations. It is pointed out as likely that General Chaffee, acting in consonance with the other commanders, divided his forces, leaving the Ninth Infantry and the marines without the walls of the city to act as a rear guard to prevent the escape of Chinese troops by other gates than those through which the allies entered, or for some other excellent reason.

Only two battalions of the Fourteenth Regiment are with General Chaffee. They comprise about 800 men. This would indicate that only about one-third of General Chaffee's force actually entered the city at the time he sent his dispatch.

The fact that only eight of the American force were wounded, none being killed, is regarded as notably fortunate.

**Remy's Advice.**

Admiral Remy's dispatch, which contains much interesting information in few words, is:

"Che-Foo (no date)—To Bureau Navigation, Washington: Taku, Eighteenth—Telegraph line to Pekin interrupted. Information Japanese sources Empress Dowager detained by Prince Yungedo (probably Yung Lu) in inner city, which being bombarded by allies. Chaffee reports entered legation grounds evening 14th. Eight wounded during day's fighting; otherwise all well."

The startling feature of the dispatch is that fighting within the city of Pekin was continuing, according to the advice of Admiral Remy. The Inner, or as it is popularly known the Forbidden, City evidently had not been taken. It is surrounded by a massive wall of solid masonry, more than twenty feet high, and it is not regarded as surprising that the Chinese should make their final stand within its shadows. Prior to the receipt of the dispatch it was accepted generally as a fact that the Dowager Empress, in company with the Emperor and a large suite, had left Pekin. While nothing is said in Admiral Remy's advice as to the whereabouts of the Empress, it is deemed scarcely probable that

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## TEN PERSONS INJURED IN ONE DAY'S MINOR ACCIDENTS.

Besides the Maeder street collision, in which a little girl lost her life and three were injured, there was a series of street-car accidents all over the city yesterday and last night in which ten other persons were injured.

About 10 o'clock last night California avenue car No. 2497 while south bound on Virginia avenue overtook and ran into a one-horse spring wagon containing five passengers at Neesho street, demolishing the wagon and stranding the occupants along the street.

Frederick Coopmann, Sr., and his son of the same name of No. 3145 Texas avenue, who were in the front seat driving, were the worst injured. The senior Coopmann was bruised about the legs and his back was sprained. Fred sustained bruises about the legs and a deep cut in the left side of the head. Joseph Marti, Fred Marti and John Obermaier, all of No. 2324 Pestalozzi

street, the other occupants of the wagon, were bruised. Coopmann and his son were attended at the South Side Dispensary and forwarded to their homes.

Frank Sampson is the conductor of the car and W. B. Jordan is the motorman. They both live at No. 502 Virginia avenue. Sampson claimed that it was so dark he could not see the wagon until he was on it and it was too late to stop. No arrests were made.

Miss Annie Mahon of No. 1429 Clary street was quite painfully injured in clearing from a Grand avenue car at the crossing of Lucky street last night. About 8 o'clock, while she was stepping from the car, it started with a sudden jerk and threw her backwards into the street. The back of her head was badly bruised. Doctor F. J. Russell of No. 104 North Grand avenue, who dressed the wound, sent her to the Mullany Hospital for further treatment.

Pat Delaney, 61 years old, living at No. 1233 North Seventh street, was struck by a car while crossing the track at Twelfth

## LODGE-DAVIS WEDDING.

Son of the Senator Married in Boston.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 18.—George Cabot Lodge, son of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, and Miss Matilda Freilighusen Davis, daughter of Judge John Davis, of the Court of Claims, Washington, were married at the Church of the Advent in this city yesterday.

## MASON CONDEMNS HAY.

Says His Action in Agreeing to Modus Vivendi Was Asiatic.

**REPUBLIC SPECIAL.**

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 18.—Senator Mason of Illinois, who has just returned from a trip to Alaska, is very sore over the

## LEADING TOPICS TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

For Missouri—Generally fair Monday; southerly winds.

For Arkansas—Generally fair Monday; southerly winds.

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1. More Fighting in Pekin.

2. Armistice to Come Next.

3. Girl Beheaded by Street Car.

4. Robbed While Waiting for Owl Cars.

5. Valuable Express Package Stolen.

6. In the City.

7. Seeking Smooth Swindlers.

8. Time and Money Wasted by Army.

9. Roosevelt Has to Explain to Palmer.

10. Memorial Services for King Humbert.